

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 TRSE-00 STR-04 SS-15 /041 W

-----030731 114215 /15

R 021501Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5586

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1523

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: GATT, ETRD

SUBJ: MISDIRECTING OF GATT INSTRUCTIONS

REF: A. STATE 45380, B. GENEVA 578

1. MISSION HAS ON SEVERAL PREVIOUS OCCASIONS BROUGHT TO WASHINGTON'S ATTENTION THE MIS-ADDRESSING OF MESSAGES RELATING TO THE GATT. SEE, FOR EXAMPLE, REFTEL (B). WE HAVE, IN EACH CASE, REMINDED WASHINGTON THAT NON-MTN GATT MATTERS ARE HANDLED BY U.S. MISSION GENEVA.

2. WE WERE THUS SURPRISED TO SEE THAT REFTEL (A) WAS ADDRESSED TO USDEL MTN GENEVA. IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT THIS MATTER NEEDS HIGHER LEVEL ATTENTION IN WASHINGTON.

3. AS WASHINGTON TRADE POLICY AGENCIES WILL BE AWARE, REFTEL (A) WAS A LAST-MINUTE CHANGE IN OUR INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GATT COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF DISC AND RELATED TAX MATTERS. THIS MISSION HAD ONLY A FEW MINUTES DURING THE MORNING OF MARCH 2 IN WHICH TO LOCATE THE MESSAGE, STUDY IT, AND COLLECT AND STUDY THE VARIOUS IMPORTANT GATT CASES, ESPECIALLY AS CITED IN PARAS 2 AND 6, BEFORE THE 10:00 A.M. GENEVA TIME OPENING OF THE GATT COUNCIL. FORTUNATELY, THE DIFFICULTY WAS AVERTED.

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4. THIS MISSION HAS BROUGHT TO WASHINGTON'S ATTENTION THE PREVIOUS INSTANCES OF MIS-ADDRESSED TELEGRAMS IN THE HOPE OF FORESTALLING JUST SUCH A SITUATION AS NEARLY AROSE WITH REFTEL (A). WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES HAVE, AT A LEVEL APPROPRIATE TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE, BEEN MADE AWARE

OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROPER ADDRESSING OF CABLES.  
CATTO

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, TRADE, DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977GENEVA01523  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 45380, 77 GENEVA 578  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2942940  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MISDIRECTING OF GATT INSTRUCTIONS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, ACOM, US, GATT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009